

The BP Challenge



encouraging hands-on learning



Finding Your Way or Knowing What to Do

Setting – Resources/Library

Scenario

- The library now houses resources to borrow, as well as reference books, computer access, big books, pictures and catalogues.
- The challenge is to devise clear instructional signs that can be understood by young children who cannot read yet and also students who have English as a second language.

Task

- To design, make and install attractive signage in the school library that clearly indicates where each resource is kept and portrays how the user can access and utilize them. The signs need to convey their message with text and pictorial symbols.

Process

- Identify what signs are already available and how effective they are.
- Canvass the school community to find out what other signage would be desirable.
- Explore symbols that are used internationally to convey messages and instructions.
- Devise a draft set of signs.
- Draw up a questionnaire to be used to evaluate the signs.
- Invite the students to comment of the usefulness of the signs.

Consider

- How easy they are to see?
- Do they convey the instructions clearly?
- Install the signs and review reaction to them over a period of time

Materials

- You may like to consider using some of the following:
 - Wood
 - Plastic
 - Fabric
 - Paper
 - Polystyrene

Conditions

- A whole class challenge, different groups could focus on a particular sign.
- The signs should be clearly visible from the other side of the room.
- They should not restrict access of light from windows or introduce a safety hazard.

Criteria for Judging

- Clarity of the message for both non-readers and non-English speaking students.
- Visibility – are the letters/symbols of appropriate size?
- Durability.
- Attractiveness .
- Clear links between identified needs and final product.

Possible Variations

- Labels for buildings.
- Installation of a site map at the entrance to the School.
- School Fair signage.
- Backdrops for school production
- A school notice board that young children can understand by using simple language and symbols.

BP CHALLENGE SUPPORT

We are pleased to support your school and classroom BP Challenges with certificates and small prizes. Contact us today.

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